

# Current status of resonant inelastic X-ray scattering spectroscopy (RIXS) and the need for nano-RIXS

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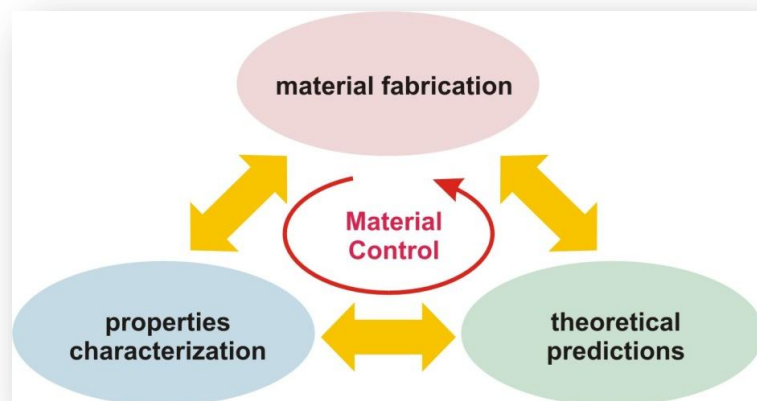
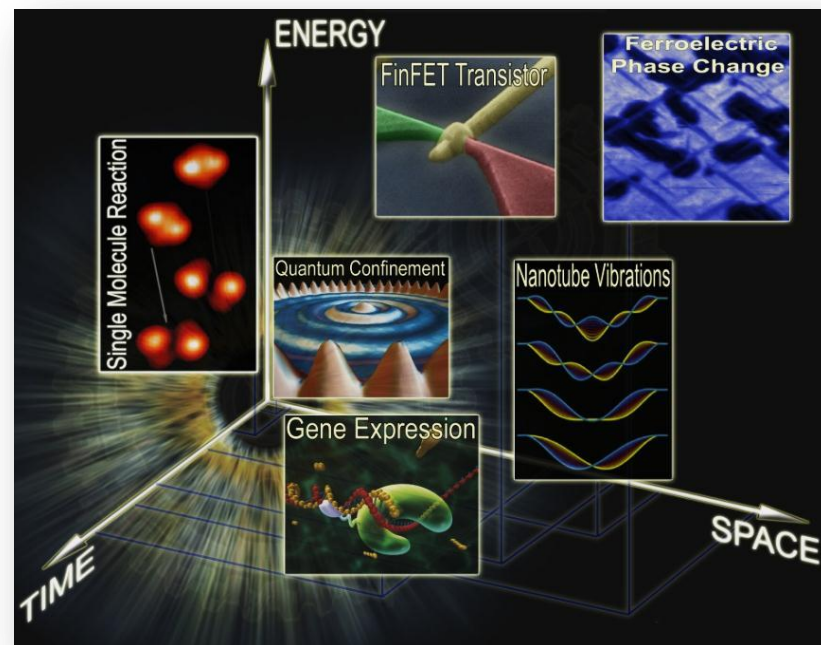


- Introduction.
- Compare different spectroscopic probes.
- Advantages and limitation of RIXS.
- Which edge to choose? TM L or M edges?
- Few examples to argue the need of nano-RIXS.
- Conclusions.

# Grand challenges

## DOE BES five grand challenges –

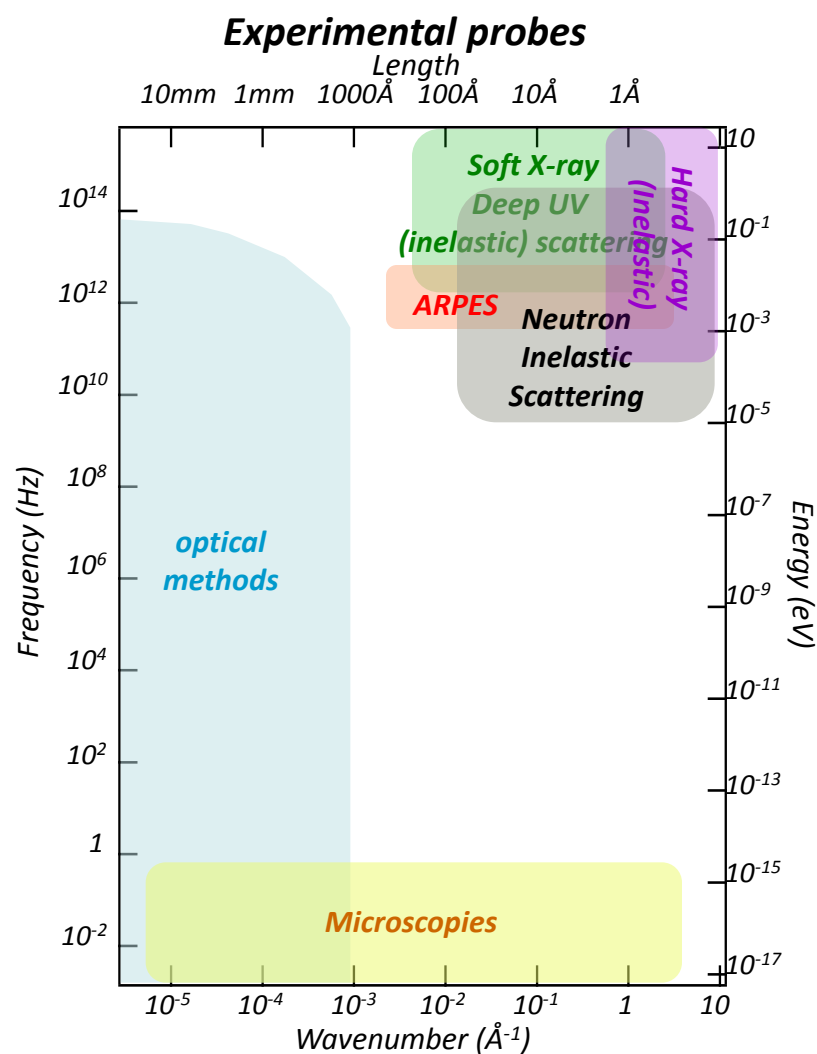
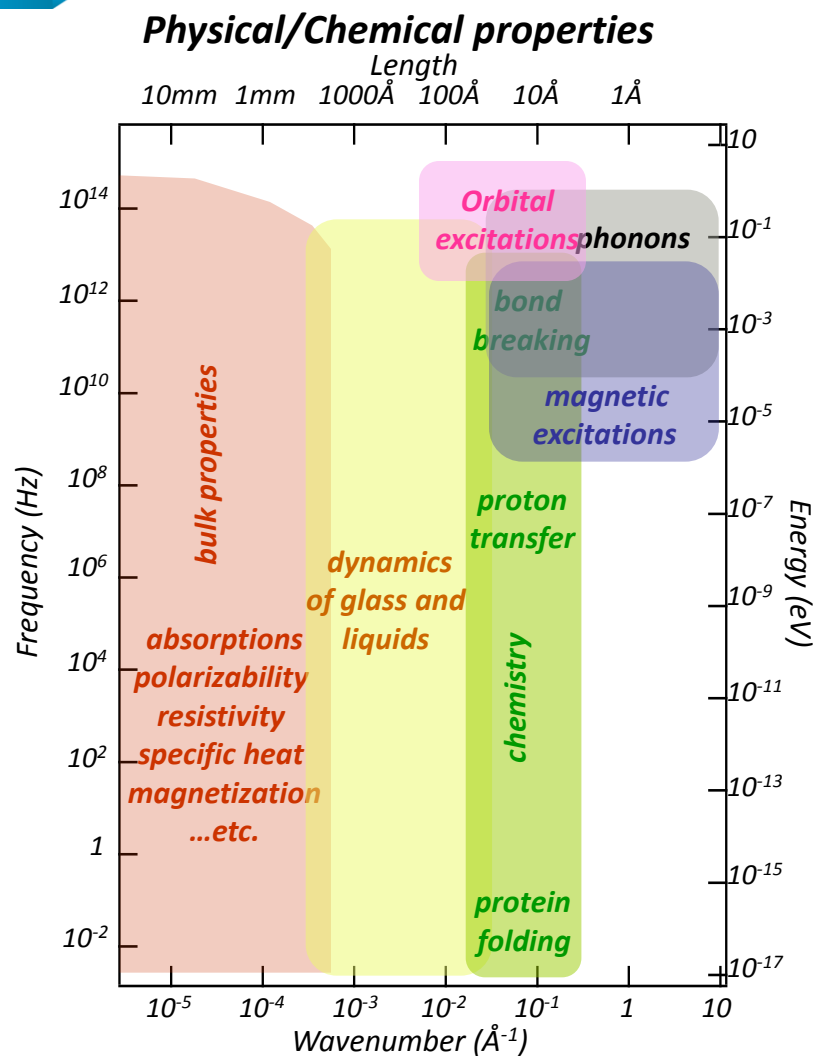
- Control materials and processes at the level of **electrons**.
- Synthesize materials with tailored properties.
- Exploring **emergent phenomena** from complex correlations.
- Master energy/information flow at **nanoscale** with capability rivaling living things.
- Understand materials far from equilibrium states.



The goal is achieve the **material control**

Understanding complex phenomena requires sharper and sharper **tools**

# Selection of experimental tools



**IXS, APRES and Neutrons** are the ideal tools

# Comparison between different probes

## Spectral Function

### Single particle -

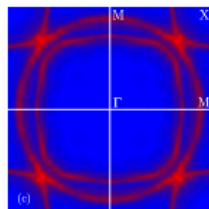
**Charge:** Angle-Resolved Photoemission Spectroscopy (ARPES):  $I(\mathbf{k}, \omega) \sim A(\mathbf{k}, \omega)$

### Two particles -

**Spin:** Inelastic Neutron Scattering (INS): spin-spin correlation  $S(\mathbf{q}, \omega)$

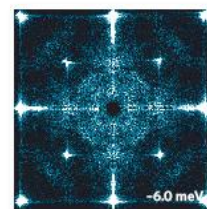
**Charge:** Inelastic X-ray Scattering (IXS): charge-charge correlation  $S(\mathbf{q}, \omega)$

$k$  or  $q$  space

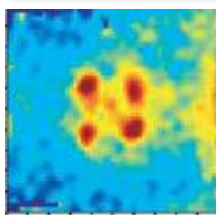


FT-STS  
↔

$r$ -space



$\text{Sr}_3\text{Ru}_2\text{O}_7$



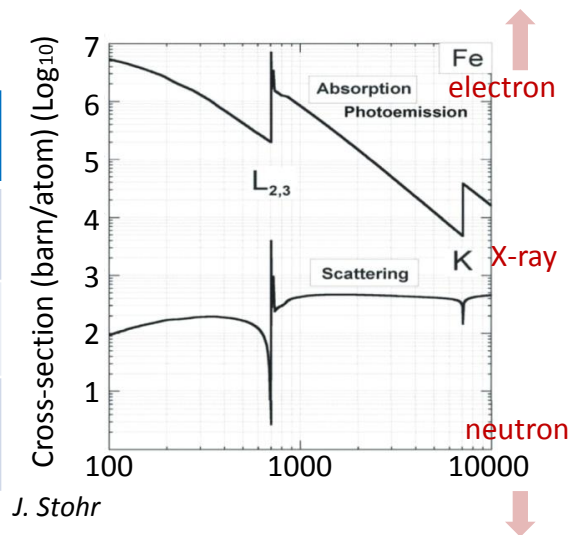
$\text{YBa}_2\text{Cu}_3\text{O}_{7-x}$

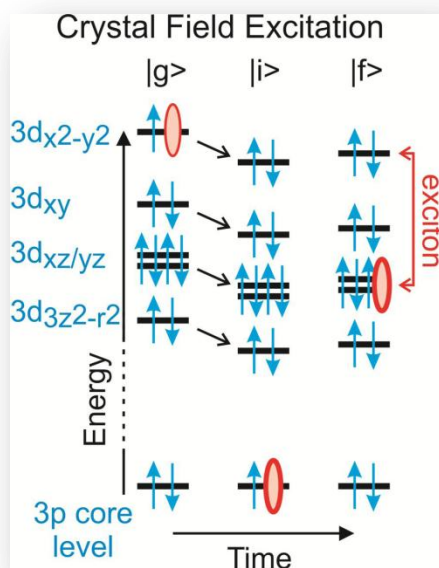
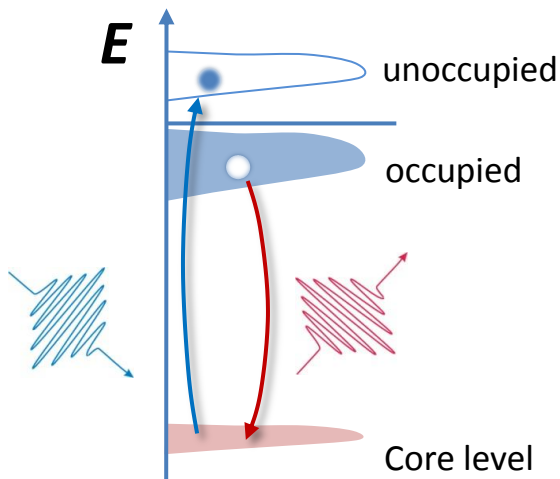
???

RIXS is a powerful probe, but needs improvements -

- Higher throughput
- Better resolution
- More capabilities

	Relative cross-section	Resolving power ( $E/\Delta E$ )	Energy resolution ( $\Delta E$ )	Energy range (eV)
ARPES (electron)	$>10^4$	$10\text{eV}/1\text{meV} \sim 10^5$	1meV	$\sim h\nu$ (100eV)
INS (neutron)	$\ll 1$	$100\text{meV}/0.1\text{meV} \sim 10^3$	0.1meV	$\sim 1\text{eV}$
RIXS (photon)	1	$1\text{-}10\text{keV}/100\text{meV} \sim 10^{4-5}$	100meV (~10meV)	$\sim h\nu$ (keV)





## Advantages of RIXS

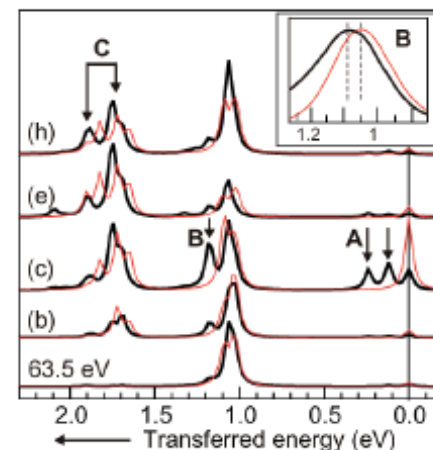
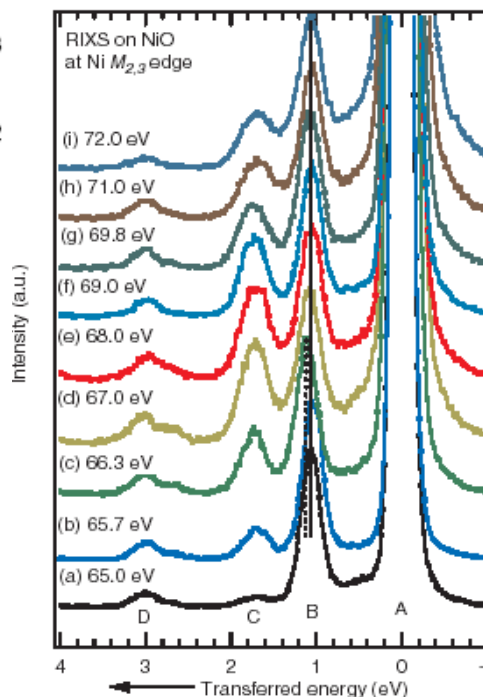
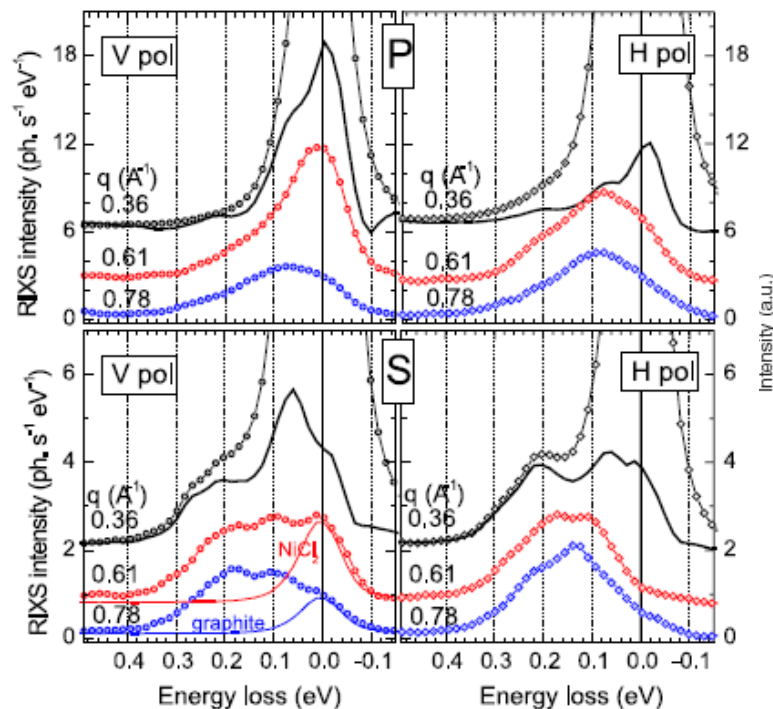
- Directly coupled to **charge** degree of freedom.
- Bulk sensitive – study **interface** properties; *in-situ* studies.
- Charge neutral process – works with **presence of electric/magnetic field**.
- Not limited by optical transition rule – *dd* excitations.
- Finite **momentum-transfer** – study indirect bandgap and exciton dispersions.
- Resonance effect - **resonance enhancement** of the electronic contribution and **elemental selectivity**.
- Symmetry selective – **polarization dependence**.
- Not limited by core-hole lifetime –  $\Delta E$  can be greatly improved.
- Fast dynamics – internal clock set by the core-hole when incident energy is detuned away from elemental edges.

... but RIXS has certain limitations (**resolution** and **throughput**)

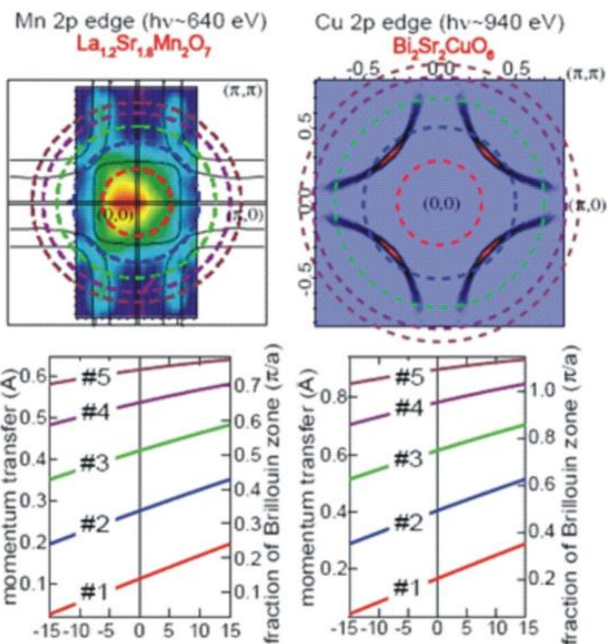


# RIXS at different edges

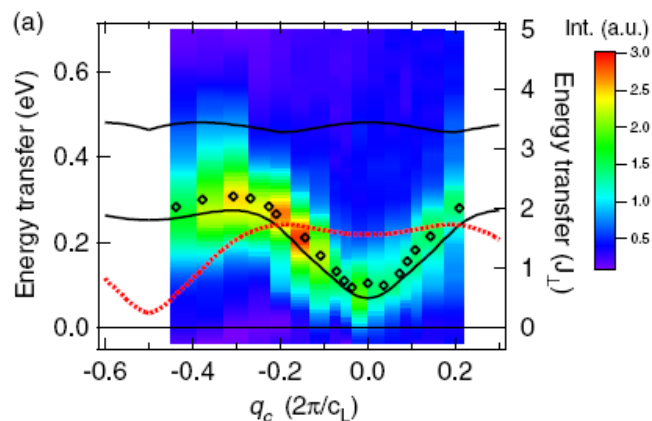
Edge	Energy range	Resolving power for 10meV	pros	cons
L	500eV ~ 1keV	$1\text{keV}/10\text{meV} = 10^5$	large $\Delta q$ small elastic peak on resonance fewer branching...	large machine lower throughput (with reasonable OE)
M	50~100eV	$100\text{eV}/10\text{meV} = 10^4$	small $\Delta q$ smaller machine larger throughput	strong elastic peak more branching



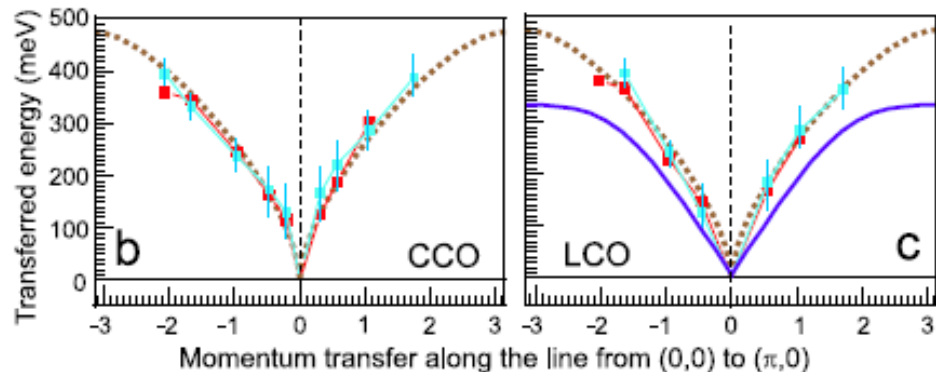
S.G. Chiuzaian et al. *PRL* **95**, 197402 (2005)  
 L. Duda et al, *PRL* **96**, 067402 (2006)  
 L. Braicovich et al, *PRL* **102**, 167401 (2009)  
 J. Schlappa et al., *PRL* **103**, 047401 (2009)  
 G. Ghiringhelli et al. *PRL* **102**, 027401 (2009)



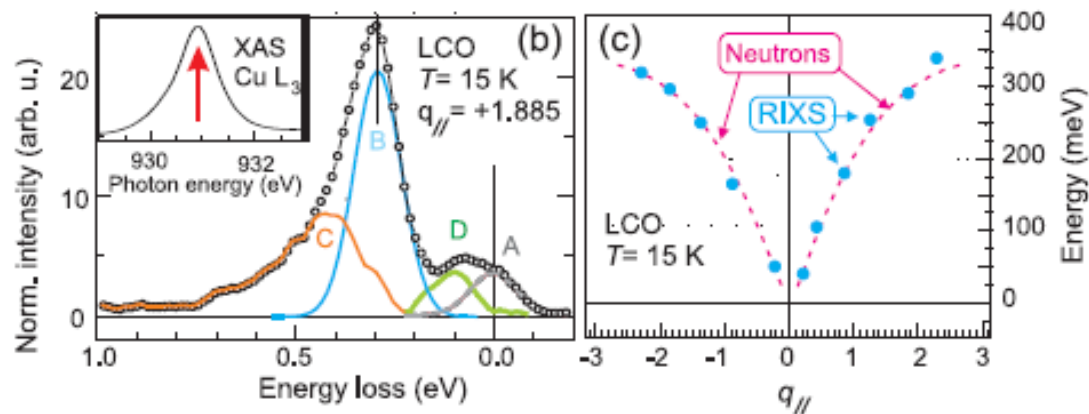
magnetic excitation (double-triplon) in  $\text{Sr}_{14}\text{Cu}_{24}\text{O}_{41}$



Bi-magnon dispersion in layered cuprate (?)



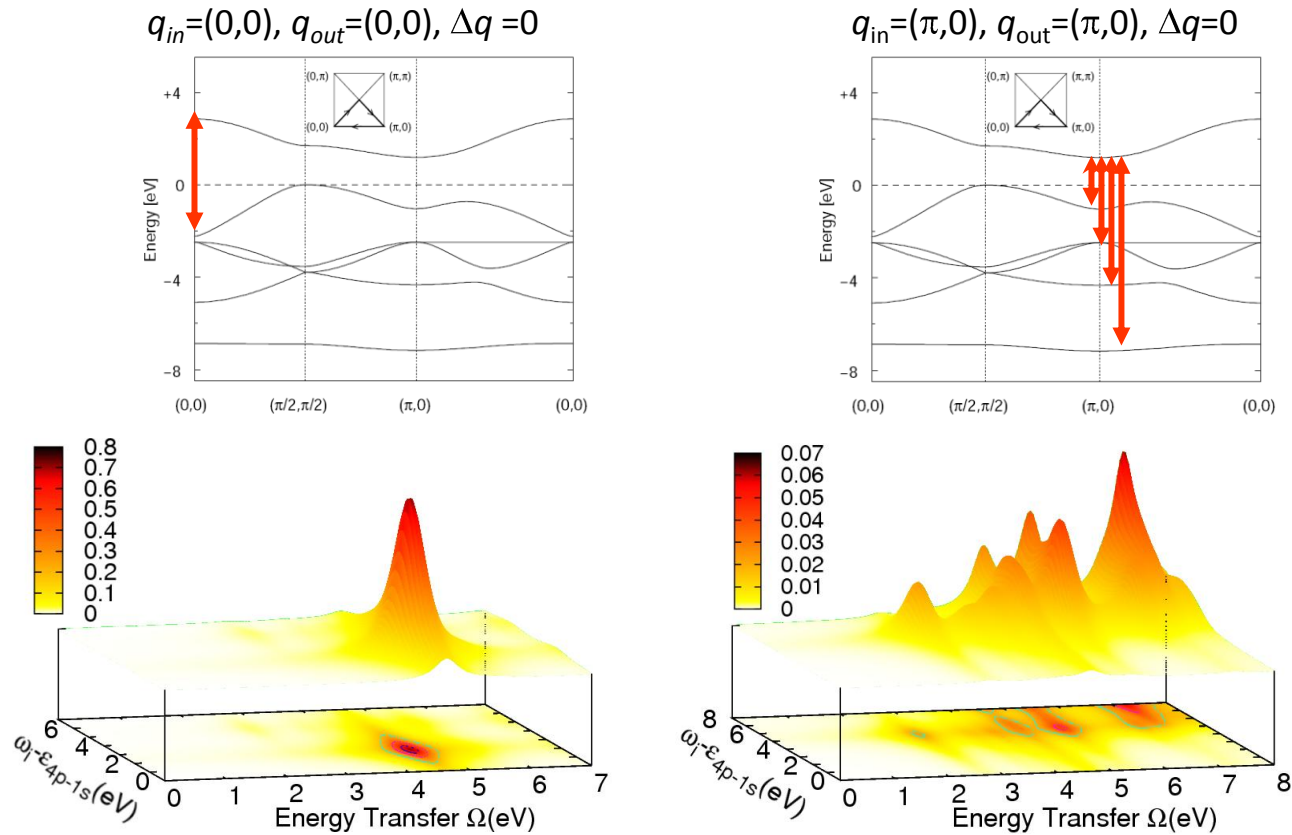
Single magnon dispersion probed by IXS and neutron



Finite momentum transfer can be helpful in exploring the dispersion of excitations; however, could be an issue as well...



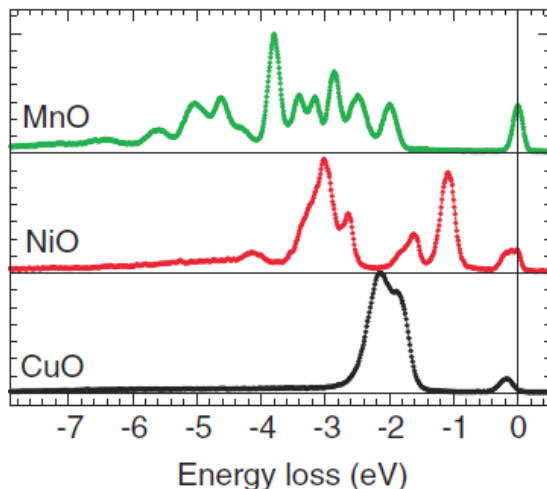
## Cu K-edge RIXS spectrum (neglecting polarization, 4p)



$$I(\omega_i, \Omega = \omega_i - \omega_f) \propto \sum_f \left| \sum_i \sum_{4p} \frac{\langle \psi_f | \sum_l p_{4p}^\dagger s_l e^{i\mathbf{q}_{out} \cdot \mathbf{r}_l} | \psi_{ci} \rangle \langle \psi_{ci} | \sum_j p_{4p} s_j^\dagger e^{i\mathbf{q}_{in} \cdot \mathbf{r}_j} | \psi_0 \rangle}{E_{ci} + \epsilon_{4p-1s} - E_0 - \hbar\omega_i - i\Gamma_1} \right|^2 \times \delta(E_f - E_i - \hbar\Omega)$$

RIXS is probing the wave functions of the involving states

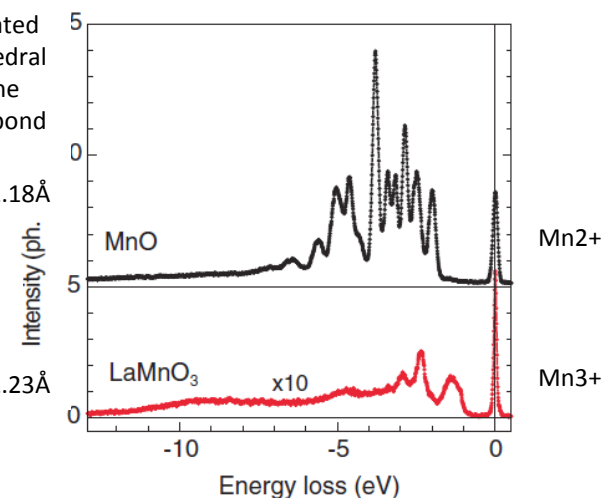
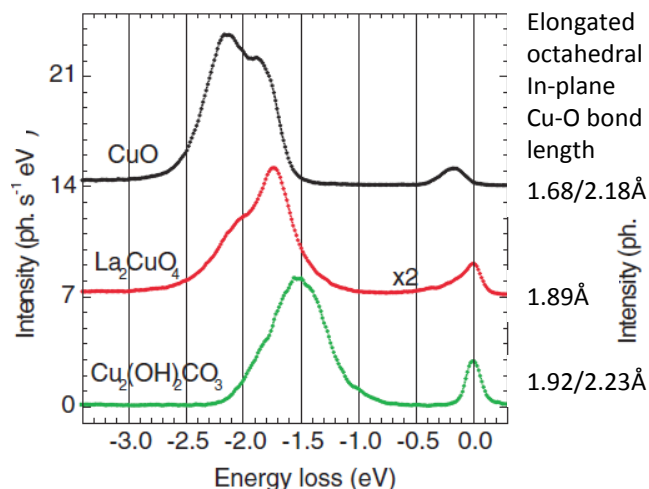
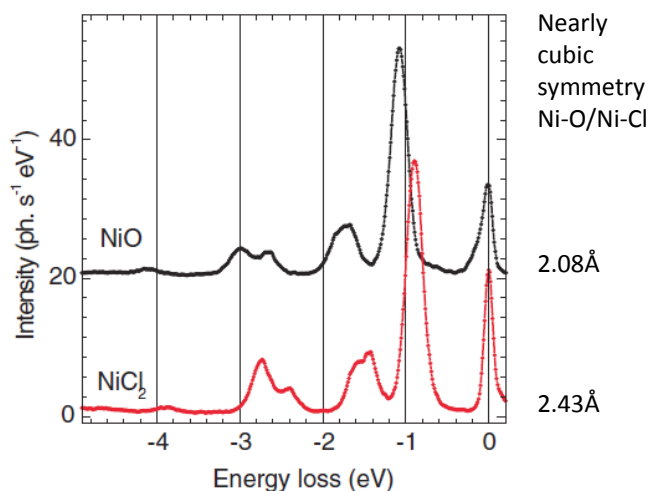
## Crystal field effect



L-edge,  $\Delta E \sim 100 \text{ meV}$

- Crystal field excitation ( $dd$ ) + Coulomb repulsion play important roles in RIXS spectra
- Sensitive to intra-atomic distance (bond length)
- Sensitive to TM valency
- Sensitive to symmetry

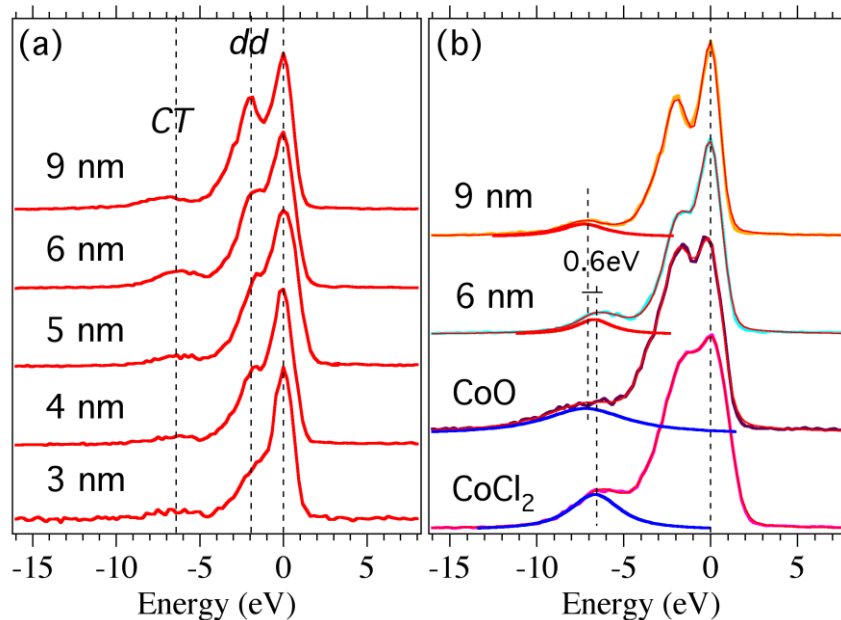
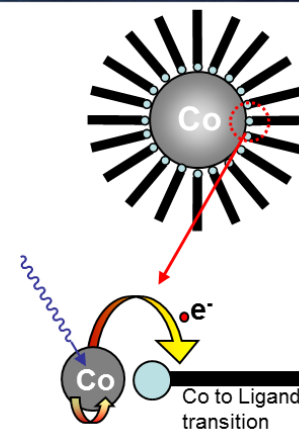
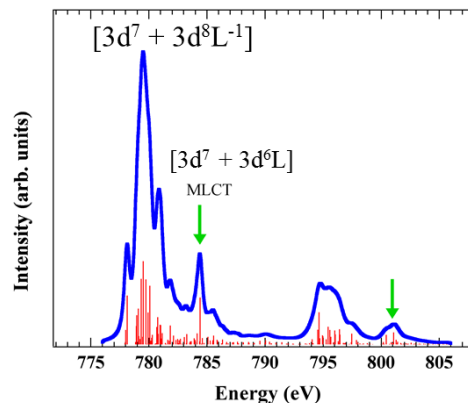
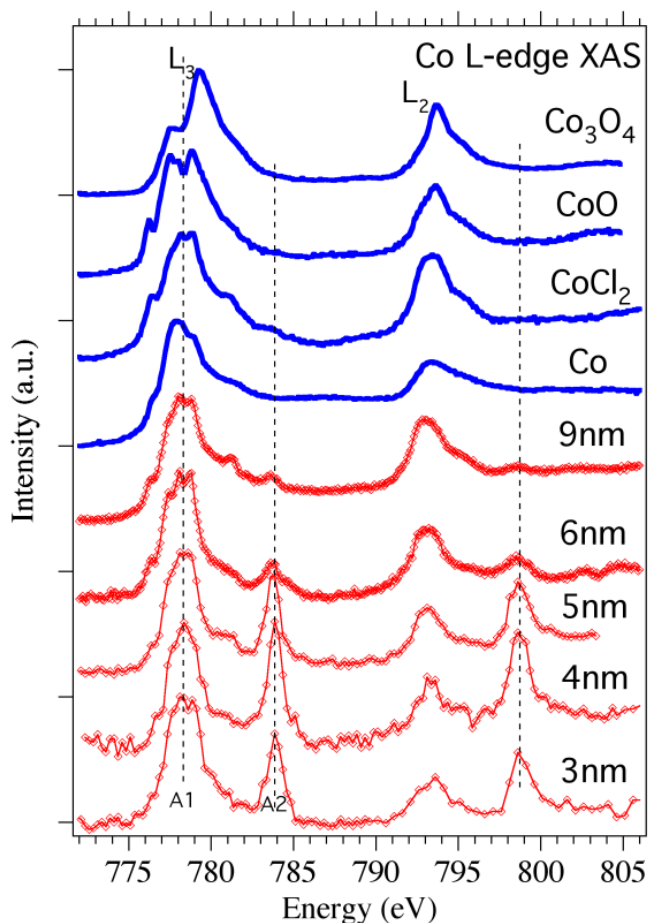
A powerful probe for **local** electronic environment – important for determining the electronic structures of **nanoparticles**



G. Ghiringhelli et al. Euro. Phys. J. **169**, 199 (2009)

# Charge transfer @ nanoscale

## Co nanoparticles

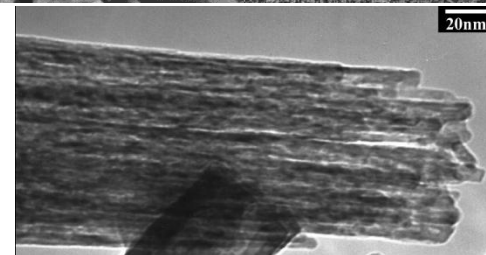
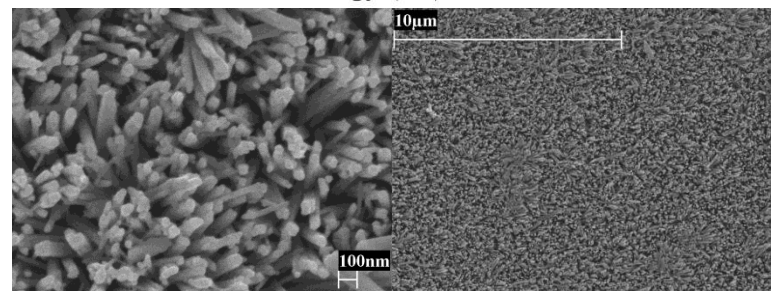
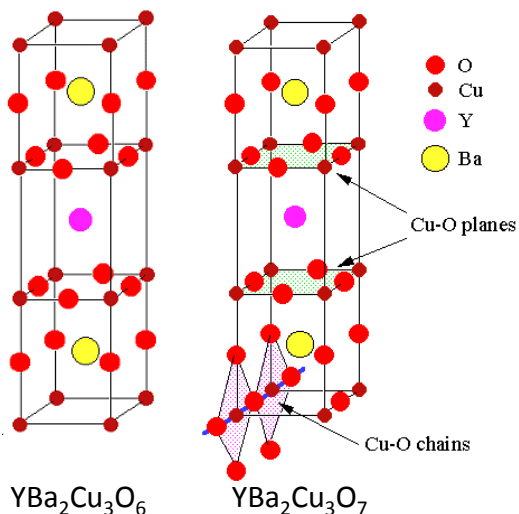
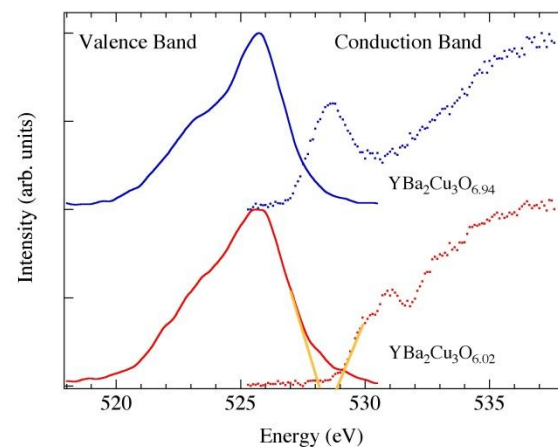
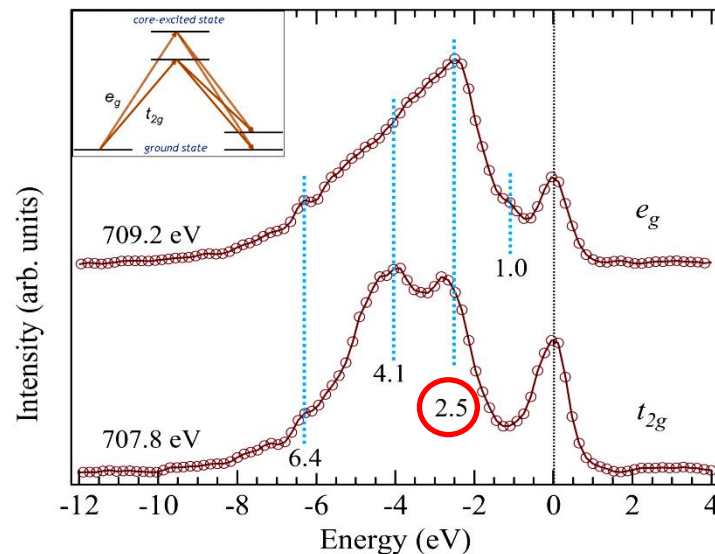
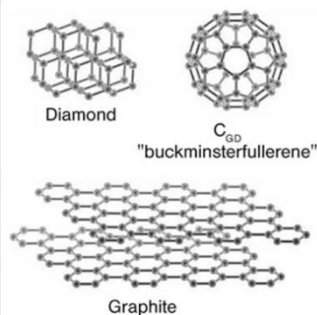
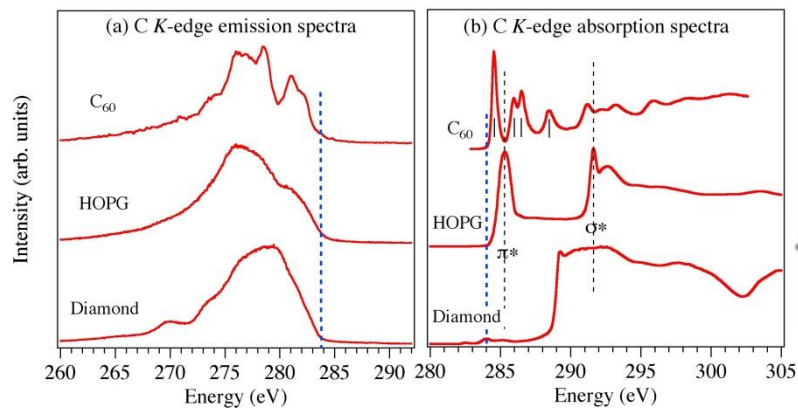


H. Liu et al. Nano Lett. 7, 1919 (2007)

Courtesy of Jinghua Guo

- Surfactant: Oleic Acid,  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{34}\text{O}_2$  [ $\text{CH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_7\text{CH}=\text{CH}(\text{CH}_2)_7\text{CO}_2\text{H}$ ]
- Solvent: Dichlorobenzene,  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{Cl}_2$

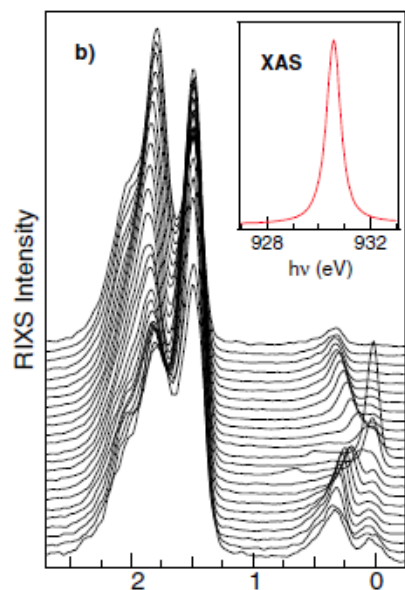
# Bandgap engineering



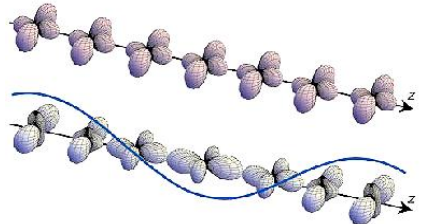
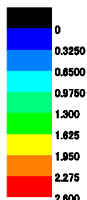
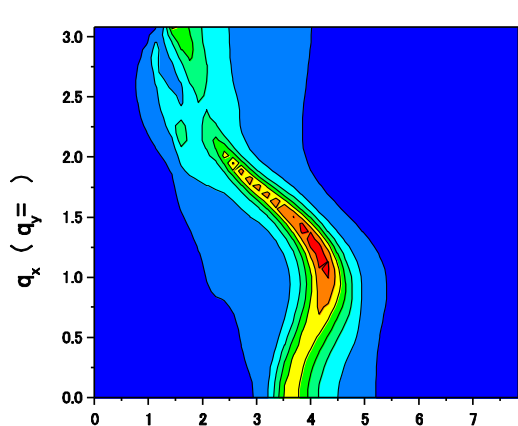
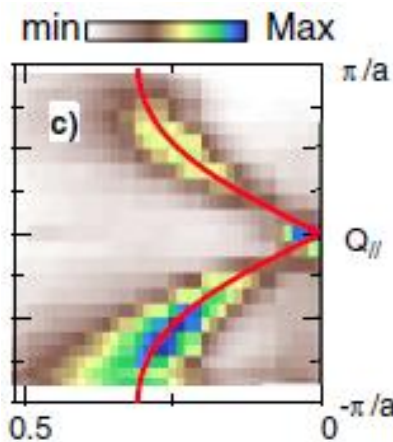
*J. Guo et al. PRB* **61**, 9140 (2000)  
*J. Guo et al. Int. J. Nanotech* **1**, 193 (2004)  
*L. Vayssieres et al. Adv. Mat.* **17**, 2320 (2005)  
 Courtesy of Jinghua Guo



## Elementary excitations

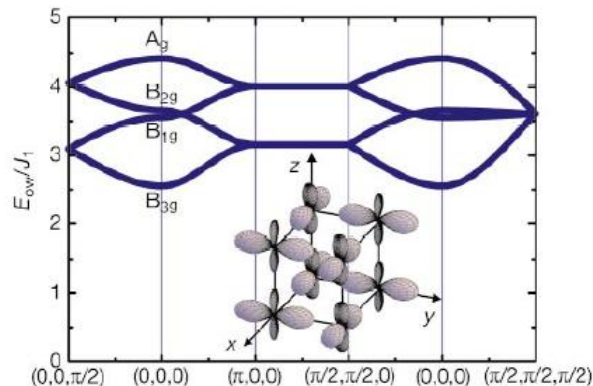
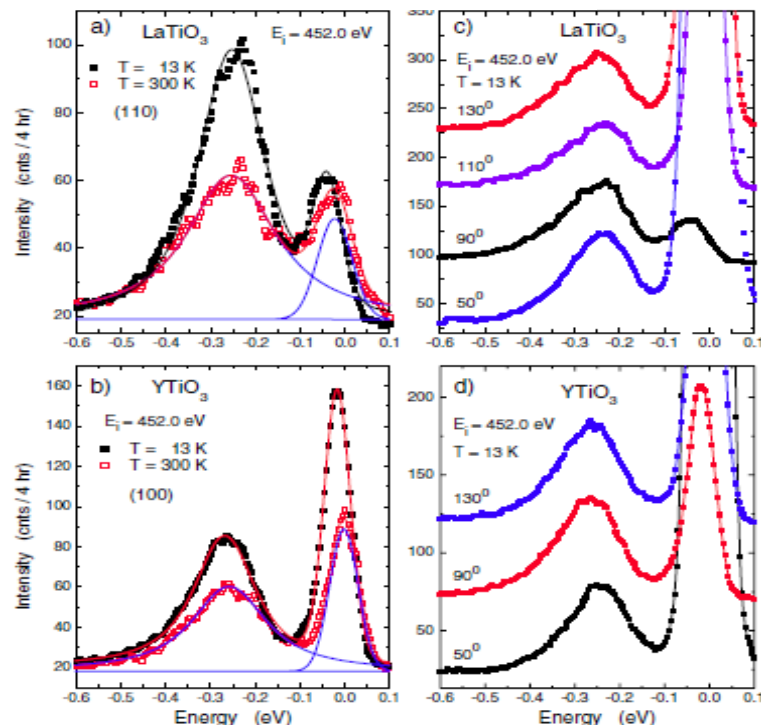


Magnon in 2D spin  
1/2  $\text{Sr}_2\text{CuO}_2\text{Cl}_2$



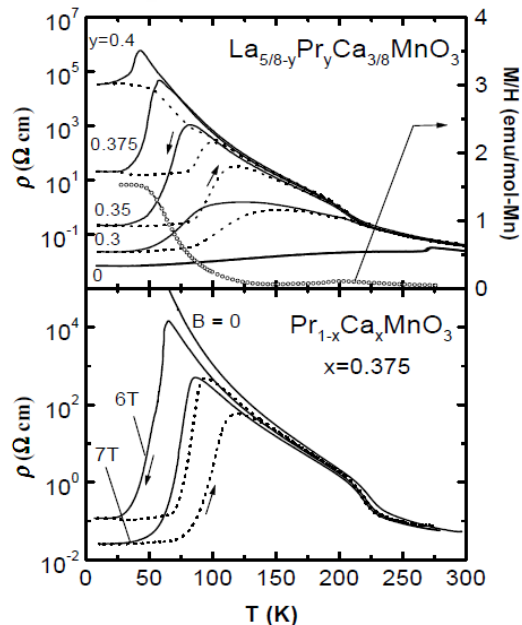
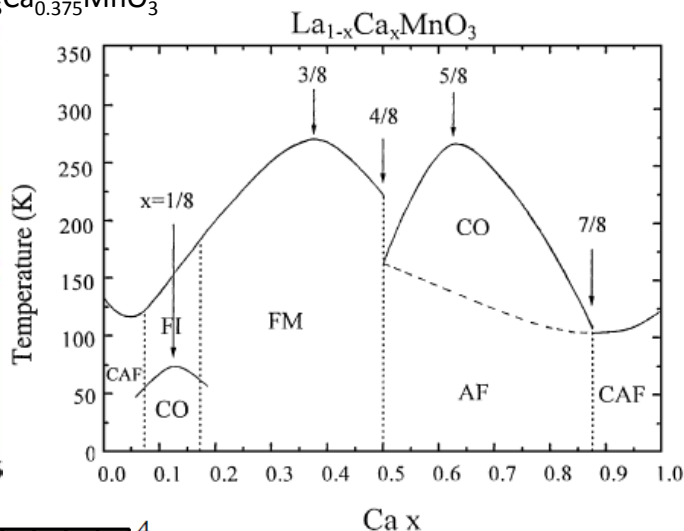
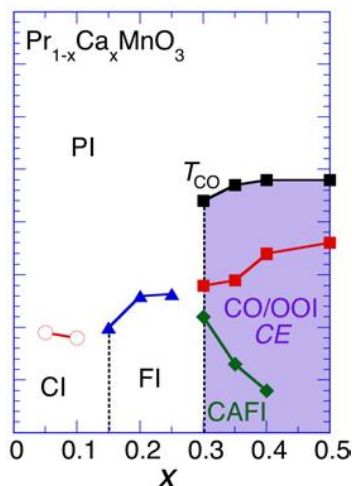
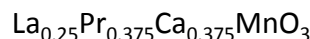
M. Guarise et al. PRL **105**, 157006 (2010)  
C. Ulrich et al., PRL **103**, 107205 (2009)  
E. Saitoh et al, Nature **410**, 180 (2001)

Orbital excitation - titanates



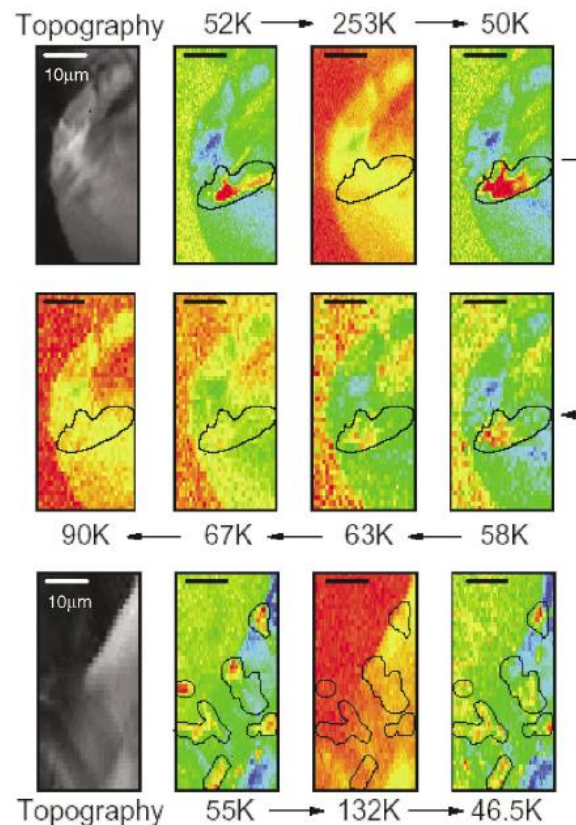


# Strong phase separation



- Strong memory effect
- Kinetic arrest due to lattice distortion

Strong phase separation in correlated systems makes the identification of the origin of excitations much harder



*D.D. Sarma et al. PRL 93, 097202 (2004)*

# Conclusion

- Nano-RIXS is a powerful probe for studying local electronic structures – if we have the energy resolution and/or flux (near elastic peak and around crystal field excitations).
- Limitation on throughput and energy resolution will determine the scientific scope.
- Potential impact to energy science – especially in the *in-situ* research.
- Important for understanding correlated electron system when electronic phase separation dominates.

## Thank you

